Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

This "cover" page added by the Internet Archive for formatting purposes

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
News

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
Montana State Library
3 0864 1004 2108 3

VOLUME 18, NO. 4 JULY 1989

Reference Institute Helps Montana Librarians

On June 19 through 22, fifty librarians from all types of libraries and from all over the state participated in a workshop on how to provide reference services to library users. The Institute, which comprised three and a half days of intensive training, was organized by the State Library and paid for by a grant from the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), a federal grant designed to improve library services.

The course was taught by Karin Ford of the Idaho State Library. Librarians also attended training sessions at the Montana Historical Society, the Montana State Library and the Montana State Law Library.

The Institute participants were librarians without formal training in library science but who are currently working as providers of reference services to their communities.

Calendar of Events

August 1989

16 - I.L.L reimbursement rules hearing - Polson
16 - MT State Library Commission - Polson

September 1989

1 - 30 National Library Card Sign-Up Month
8 - International Literacy Day sponsored by the United Nations
23 - 30 Banned Books Week

On May 22 - 24, State Librarian, Richard Miller and Director of Library Development, Sheila Cates visited library directors in eastern Montana. Clockwise from top left, Miller joins Peggy Arnold in Laurel, Esther Dean and Board Chair, Albert Martens in Forsyth, June Phillips in Livingston, Carol Waters in Plains and Tim Bernardis at the Little Big Horn College in Crow Agency.

What is the State Library Commission?

Recently, members of the Montana library community have indicated that they and others would like to have more information about the structure of library administration at the state level.

It is hoped that the following answers will cover some of the most common questions about the Montana State Library Commission,

(1) Who are the members of the State Library Commission?

The Commission is a group composed of the following members: 1. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or his/her designee. 2. Five persons appointed by the Governor, who shall serve staggered terms of three years each. 3. a librarian appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education from one of the six units of the Montana University System who shall serve a term of three years.

(2) What is the Commission's purpose and authority? As charged in MCA 22-1-103, the Commission serves Montana libraries in several different areas:

- Giving assistance to all public libraries
- Maintaining and operating the State Library
- Accepting and expending grant monies to benefit libraries and library users
- Providing library service for the blind and physically handicapped of Montana
- Furnishing library assistance and information services to state officials, state departments and residents inadequately served by libraries
- Acting as a state board of professional standards and library examiners, developing standards for public libraries, and adopting rules for the certification of librarians
- Designating areas for the establishment of federations of libraries and designating headquarters libraries for such federations

State Library Commissioners from left to right are Commission Chair, Mary Hudspeth, C.E. "Abe" Abramson, and Margy Kernan from the Office of Public Instruction (Commissioner Nancy Keenan's intermittent designee). In back are State Librarian Richard Miller (not a Commission member); Montana Tech Library Director, Joanne Lerud and Henry McClernan. Two other commissioners, Marie Thompson & Mary Doggett, are not pictured.

(3) How does the Commission conduct its business?

The Commission meets six times a year. The exact dates and places are determined by the Commissioners at their last meeting of each year. The remaining meetings scheduled for 1989 are August 16 in Polson, October 25 in Fort Benton and December 13 in Helena.

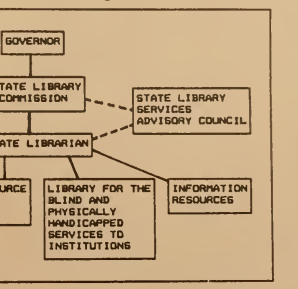
(4) Who attends Commission meetings?

The meetings are open to the public. There is always open time scheduled, usually toward the beginning of the meeting, so that anyone who wants to can address the Commission. The meetings are also attended by persons who have been asked by the Commission to report on specific topics and by persons who are simply interested in the business of the Commission and in Montana libraries. Typically, a meeting lasts from about 9:30 A.M. until 3:30 P.M.. Anyone interested in receiving an agenda in advance of each Commission meeting or in finding out specific dates, places and times of meetings should contact Mary Jane West at the State Library, 1515 East 6th, Helena, Montana 59620.

(5) How is the Commission related to the State Library?

The Commission is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the State Library. (See chart)

Those who are interested in obtaining a better understanding of the State Library Commission are encouraged to attend a Commission meeting.



Around the State

The **Liberty County Library Board** joined with several community groups in Chester to host an open house on June 30. The event was a celebration of 40 years of library in the county, as well as official recognition of **Lilly Eveland's** dedicated service through all those years.

Sue Nissen, Law Librarian at the **Montana Power Company** in Butte, has been granted a leave of absence to attend the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science in Iowa City. Nissen was awarded a $1,200 scholarship from the American Association of Law Libraries, a $600 scholarship from the University of Iowa and she was named first alternate for a $1,000 scholarship awarded by the Library and Information Technology Association and CLSI. Library Technician, **Debbie Mueller**, will be "holding down the fort" at the MPC Law Library during Nissen's absence.

Inez Herrig, who has served 60 years as the Director of the **Lincoln County Library** in Libby will retire this summer.

Since Herrig took her position as director she has overseen many changes in her library and has been an active participant in improving library services in the state as a whole.

The culmination of several library locale changes over the years occurred in 1987 with the dedication of the Inez Herrig Building, a 2,000 square feet addition to the current library. Another of Herrig's accomplishments was guiding the library into the age of automation originally by the purchase of an electric charging machine in the 1930's to acquisition of Western Library Network equipment in the 1980's. In 1986 the Lincoln County Library became the site of one of two Intermountain Community Learning and Information Services (ICLIS) pilots in the state. The W.K. Kellogg-funded project brings state-of-the-art communications/reference technology to rural communities.

Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement Hearing in Polson

A hearing of the proposed administrative rules for the interlibrary loan reimbursement provided for in House Bill 193, will be held at 8:00 A.M. at the Polson City Library meeting room. All interested persons are encouraged to attend or to send written comments to Mary Hudspeth, c/o Montana State Library, 1515 E. 6th, Helena, MT 59601.

Copies of the rules will be automatically sent to all public libraries. Others may obtain copies from the State Library.

AASL Fall Conference in Salt Lake

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) will hold its fifth annual Conference and Exhibition October 18 - 22 in Salt Lake City. The conference theme is "Access to Excellence." There are workshops planned on desktop publishing, critical thinking, automation and a day-long session on "Practical Approaches to Assessment and Collection Development for Library Media Centers," presented by Mary Bushing, Collection Development Officer at the Montana State University Libraries.

More information about the conference may be obtained from AASL/ALA, Fifth National Conference Registration, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

School librarians may also want to note that the AASL will present its first award in support of preservice professional education at next year's (1990) conference. The *School Librarians' Workshop* scholarship of $2,500 will provide financial assistance for the professional education of an individual who plans to become a school library media specialist at the pre-school, elementary or secondary level.

Scholarship applications are available from AASL School Librarians Workshop Scholarship, 50 East Huron, Chicago, IL 60611.

Montana State Library Commission

Mary Hudspeth, *Chair*
Libby

Dr. Henry McClernan, *Vice Chair*
Butte

C.E. Abramson
Missoula

Nancy Keenan
Helena

Marie Thompson
Billings

Mary Doggett
White Sulphur Springs

Commissioners' addresses are in the *Montana Library Directory*

Richard T. Miller, Jr., *State Librarian*

Montana State Library
1515 East 6th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

Nonprofit Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 30
Helena, MT 59620

Al Randall, Librarian
Libby Senior High School
150 Education Way
LIBBY MT 59923